

Top Castro Agents Operating in Bolivia

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MIAMI, Sept. 23—Bolivia appears to be the target of Cuban Premier Fidel Castro's major subversive thrust in Latin America.

Cuban-inspired guerrilla movements also are operating in Venezuela, Columbia, Guatemala and Nicaragua, but on the basis of convincing evidence presented by the Bolivians it has become obvious that Castro's first team is fomenting revolution in the land-locked Andean country.

It now seems a virtual certainty that missing Cuban revolutionary Ernesto (Che) Guevara is—or was—the number one man in the Bolivian guerrilla movement.

It also has been fairly well documented that at least 14 other Cubans were among the guerrillas, including some top-ranking figures in the Castro government.

Four have been identified by the Bolivians and reliable U.S. sources as:

- Eliseo Reyes Rodriguez, 28, a member of the Cuban Communist Party's central committee. Reyes Rodriguez is also the Cuban security and intelligence chief for Pinar Del Rio Province. He is a confidant of both Cuban Armed Forces Minister Raul Castro and intelligence chief Ramiro Valdes. He fought in the Sierra Maestra with Castro against the Batista regime.

- Orlando Pantoja Tamayo, 30, chief of Cuban coastal and port surveillance. He was one of the first to join Castro in the Sierra Maestra, then went from the Sierra Maestra to the Escambray Mountains to fight with Guevara in the anti-Batista campaign. In 1962 he was an inspector at guerrilla training schools in Havana. He had previously been on a clandestine mission to the Dominican Republic (1950) and a member of the Cuban mission to the United Nations (1960) where he was believed to be engaged in intelligence work. He received guerrilla training in Prague in 1962.

- Gustavo Machin Hord, 30, member of a prominent Cuban family, a major in the Cuban rebel army. He was arrested in Miami in 1957 as one of four participants in the assassination of ~~Antonio~~ Blanco Rico, Havana police chief under Fulgencio Batista. He joined Guevara in the Cuban Escambray Mountains in 1958. Machin operated with the alias of "Commandante Alejandro" in both the anti-Batista campaign and in ~~Bolivia~~. He is believed to have been killed in Bolivia in April.

- Jesus Suarez Gayol, former Cuban vice minister of sugar. He operated under the guerrilla name of "Joaquin" and was killed in late August by Bolivian army troops.